

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 6, with the following replacement paragraph:

A1  
The present application is related to ~~the~~ U.S. Patent ~~Applications~~ Application Serial No. 09/238,137 entitled "Multiple Program Decoding for Digital Audio Broadcasting and Other Applications," and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/238,138 entitled "Joint Multiple Program Error Concealment for Digital Audio Broadcasting and Other Applications," both filed concurrently herewith in the name of inventors Deepen Sinha and Carl-Erik W. Sundberg.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following replacement paragraph:

A2  
PAC encoding formats the compressed audio information into a packetized bitstream using a block sampling algorithm. At a 44.1 kHz sampling rate, each packet corresponds to 1024 input samples from each channel, regardless of the number of channels. The Huffman encoded filter bank outputs, codebook selection, quantizers and channel combination information for one 1024 sample block are arranged in a single packet. Although the size of the packet corresponding to each 1024 input audio ~~samples~~ sample block is variable, a long-term constant average packet length may be maintained as will be described below.